

16

中原裕  
著・花田陽一・加藤源

SHINJING COMICS

ラストイニング



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彩珠学院四回戦。  
相手は古豪、県立端雲高。  
古ダブキ・大利根監督の  
ベースに巻き込まれ…  
大苦戦!!

これが甲子園の決勝ならやるが、  
今は出来ない!!

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*This is  
the site that  
used to be  
designated for  
shopping mall  
construction...*

ザ  
ア  
ア  
ア  
ア



**Chapter 147: Stoppage Due to Rain**

The landowner  
conceded that  
and tried to  
sell the land  
anyway...



The reason for  
that has hadn't  
been made  
public, but it  
seems that  
harmful  
pollutants were  
discovered in the  
soil there.

If that rumor is  
true, then all the  
effort I've put in  
up till now...



The owner of  
that land is  
Asanokami  
Group...  
Shigeki's  
parent company.





I wanted to demonstrate my skill, but I could already see the limit. That's when I was called on...

No matter how many enterprise restructurings I've managed in my banking career, it was still the world of men...



To rebuild the Salt and Academy High School?

DEVELOPMENTAL  
CONSTRUCTION



As a result, I judged that cost-cutting measures needed to be implemented first and foremost. Among those, I concluded that the baseball club, requiring enormous maintenance expenses every year, had to be cut immediately.

It was like a godsend, so I accepted very quickly. I uncovered the main problem.



If we break up this vast field and build a condo or a car park here, we would already reap significant profits. The club needed to be disbanded as soon as possible in order to reduce the accumulated deficit.



But I can't deny that  
while I was thinking  
that, there was also  
a grudge against my  
father, who broke our  
family through baseball,  
deep inside my heart.



However,  
Saitama's  
baseball club  
that was  
situated on the  
chopping block,  
has been  
utterly reborn  
since Coach  
Hatogaya  
assumed  
control.





From my heart  
warmed as that  
sight... As a result,  
I resolved to pursue  
a different  
manufacturing  
strategy from  
before.



In other words,  
have the  
baseball club  
play in the  
Kochien and  
improve the  
Saigaku brand,  
also increasing  
the number of  
new applicants.



Quite a number  
of private schools  
have gained national  
fame through this  
method...





Why would the school do something so stupid and try to drag me down...??



And to top it all off, they concealed the pollution they couldn't manage on their land, and tried to sell it off to cover their debts...



The school, and the shopping mall as well, were just random investments with no planning behind them.



They said they were a local luxury, but if you look into it, they're just some landowner.



*They would  
make my  
hard work  
come to  
naught...  
Unforgivable!!*



Finally, we  
might get some  
real stuff on  
Hologaya!

Yeah...  
A big haul  
after so  
many blanks.



I spent weeks  
sniffing things out  
around him...  
I even approached  
the players' mothers and,  
Finally, I heard  
that story.



Yeah...



Yes.

Ah, lady,  
another  
mixed  
juice.



## References

Surprisingly,  
he punched  
an AVERAGE.

But it was  
not an English  
school.



I was  
crying my  
eyes out.









*I want to do it.  
I want to be in  
the batter's box.  
I feel like I could  
hit any pitch  
right now.*









The game was called due to rain at the top of the 7th.

Yasumiken won.



More blessed than lucky. Even the heavens are on their side.

If it picked up earlier than this, there would've been a rematch. They were lucky.

When the game ended at the top of the 7th, the rain picked up...





Everything was perfect. You think so as well, don't you?



Can't help it, with this rain.

SAIGAKU VS ZUINN GAME, THE SECOND MATCH OF TODAY, IS MOVED TO BE THE FIRST MATCH TOMORROW!



Too bad.







Team: [Team](#)  
Hosts: [Hosts](#)  
Project: [Project](#)  
Project: [Project](#)  
Project: [Project](#)



# Chapter 148: The Seed Eater

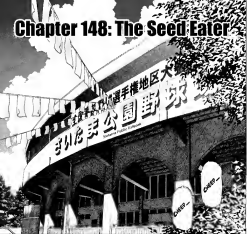


Fig. 1 National High School Baseball Championship District Tournament











5/27 (Sat) 40



Grandpa,  
please do  
something  
about that  
laugh.



The one run we  
gave up due to  
an unlucky  
blooper isn't  
the problem.

The bigger  
problem  
is...



If he did his job  
properly, right  
now we'd be  
leading by  
4 or 5 runs...



In this second at bat Takeshi completely lost sight of his own batting...



BATTING  
SECOND,  
SECOND  
BASE,  
KITAHARA-  
KUN.

ZUJIN HIGH  
STARTS ON  
THE OFFENSE.  
BATTING  
FIRST,  
CENTER,  
KOMASHI-KUN.

Listen up,  
Mamys. Of all  
the pitchers  
we have, do  
you know why  
you were  
selected to be  
the starter  
this time?

BATTING  
NINTH,  
PITCHER,  
MAMYA-  
KUN.





One out, runners on first and second. He hit a huge home run in the last game, so Takeshi is riding high now.



LIT THEM OUT FROM THE FIRST BASEMAN TAKESHI!!



BATTING FOURTH, RIGHT, OOMIYA-KUN!!



As predicted. We'll just keep scoring runs one after another, and the game quickly in a called victory, and make it easy for Saigaku.

*Don't Forget  
the sensation of  
that home run.*



*I can hit!  
The way  
I am now,  
I can get  
any pitch.*



*That's  
amazing  
spirit... I  
feel he'll hit  
anything I  
throw.*







Chouzou-san  
is really  
asking for  
the pitch that  
Hideo-san  
gave up a huge  
home run on...

A fastball  
inside and  
high...



I got it.  
If anything  
I throw will  
get hit...



I might  
as well  
throw as  
I'm told!



*It's the  
same as  
that time!*

*A Fastball  
inside and  
high!*



*That's right.  
The same Fastball  
as that time.  
Same course. If  
you can let this  
one go, it'll be a  
huge deal! We'll  
have no choice but  
to give up.*

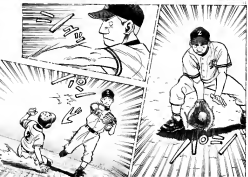


*But you're still not  
behind the ears. If  
someone dangles a  
lousy worm in front  
of you, you won't be  
able to hold back from  
biting at it.*





Even if it looks the same, Natsu's  
Pitcher's Fastball, compared  
to Kado's that  
exceeded 140 km, is  
20 km slower. If you  
try to hit it while  
holding the image  
from that time in  
your head, it's the  
same as if we  
pitched a changeup!





*Now he'll be  
hitless in  
this whole  
game!!*

**Ho**

**Ho**



*In the first  
inning... If I  
noticed this in the  
first at bat and  
took advantage,  
next time the  
game thing  
wouldn't...*



*No,  
whatever  
I may say,  
nothing will  
work until he  
realizes it  
himself...*





If as usual he would swing and miss... But with his skill, Takeshi manages to hit. And that only makes the wound deeper.

We had to be realizing that they're using slow pitches to disrupt his timing and break his form...



Don't forget the sensation of that power run.

*How do I  
get that  
sensation  
back...?*



**YOU'RE  
THE COACH,  
SO DO  
SOMETHING  
!!**



What's up with  
that, you're  
saying this  
but it doesn't  
concern  
you!



It's so  
scary

They often say  
that betting is  
a game of chance.  
Any little thing  
can make it go  
wrong.









We should win  
without  
relying on the  
clutch, by  
having sheer  
batting  
done right!



That's right.  
What serves as  
the brake for  
Takeshi is that  
we're clearly  
superior in both  
pitching and  
hitting power.



GO AND  
HIT  
ASSERT-  
VELY!!

THAT  
PITCHER  
DOESN'T  
HAVE ANY  
PITCHES  
THAT CAN  
MAKE YOU  
STRIKE OUT!!





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## Chapter 149: The Power of Age













Hasn't changed  
one bit  
from  
before!



That  
Management  
style  
of using  
any trick  
in order  
to win...

What  
veteran's  
experience!  
He's just  
running away  
from a head  
on fight!



I too, harboring  
ambition in my  
heart, entered  
the prefecture's  
powerhouse,  
Zonon High School  
and joined its  
baseball club...



It was Showa 33  
(1958) when the  
Tokyo Tower, the  
"symbol of"  
post-war revival  
was completed,  
and the year of  
the Tokyo Big  
League. Kiyoshige  
Shigeo joined the  
Gladios lineup...

For the sake of  
that dream, I was  
prepared to face  
any kind of  
hardship with  
no complaint...  
but...



Naturally,  
my goal was the  
Koshien! I'd have  
an home run  
against strong  
players  
assembled from  
the entire  
country.



What lay in wait  
for me there was  
Oboné-kempai,  
browsing with con-  
fidence after the  
previous year's  
participation in  
the South Kantō  
Tournament.







I don't think it's like that.



THERE'S NO HONOR IN WINNING BY USING DIRTY TRICKS!!



There are other infielders here...





50 years have passed — and that man's way of thinking hasn't changed at all!

I will never acknowledge baseball where you can do anything as long as you win!



After that, and for the next three years, I would almost never play in official matches!



THREE OUTS!!  
SAITAMA  
ACADEMY'S  
BATTERS ARE  
OUT IN 1-2-3  
ORDER.

IT'S STILL 1-0  
AT THE END  
OF THE 4TH  
INNING. JIN  
HISU'S LEAD  
CONTINUES.



MASUNUMA'S  
HIT IS A  
GROUNDER  
RIGHT TO THE  
SHORTSTOP.  
AKASHIBA  
HANDLES IT  
EASILY...







Anyone who thinks we can score a run by accumulating his after his draw this point on?





TEAM	1	2	3	4	5
Zulun High	0	1	0	0	
Saigunka	0	0	0	0	









BALL!



They're  
doing what  
we hate...



They've  
begun to  
use little  
tricks.



They were  
probably  
instructed to  
avoid giving us  
easy  
strikeouts.



Isn't that  
what you  
always say,  
Poppo?



True...  
It's poor  
ironclad role  
for when we  
face a good  
pitcher.



...Which  
means

Poppo, when  
you grow old,  
you'll be like  
that grandpa.







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...If we lose  
this match,  
what will be  
the reason?

## Chapter 150: We Can't Lose!!

THERE'S  
NO  
REASON  
FOR US  
TO  
LOSE!!

THEY  
DON'T  
HAVE A  
PITCHER  
YOU  
CAN'T  
HIT!!



IP looks—  
can gets  
knocked  
out!



IP their  
pitcher  
keeps us  
scoreless?  
That isn't  
possible  
either, is it?



Well,  
that's  
impos-  
sible.



YEAH

AW-RIGHT  
IT  
STARTS  
NOW, GET  
HITTING!!

**Chapter 150: We Can't Lose!!**





LEFT  
FIELDER  
FUDAI-KUN  
SUBSTITUT-  
ING FOR  
PITCHER  
NAMIKI-  
KUN.

ZUJIN HIGH  
SCHOOL  
ANNOUNCES  
A PLAYER  
SUBSTITU-  
TION.

WH?



The grand  
one!  
Dawn old  
graze!



BOTTOM OF  
THE 7TH,  
SAIBAKU  
ACADEMY ON  
THE OFFENSE,  
BATTING  
NINTH,  
CENTER,  
IWATSUKI-KUN.





NICE  
BATTING,  
SHATSUKI!!

AW~  
RIGHT, IN  
FRONT  
OF  
CENTER!



Wah, this  
new pitcher  
isn't  
anything  
special!



It's the 7th  
inning  
already, if  
they don't do  
something...  
It'll get bad...

This is the  
eighth one...  
They manage to  
get hits,  
but...



YOU DON'T HAVE  
TO HIT BIG.  
JUST ADVANCE  
THE RUNNER!!

HIT IT  
OUT OF  
THE  
PARK,  
NAGY-  
CHAN!



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
SAYING?  
MY NAGYA  
CAN HIT  
IT!



BATTING  
FIRST,  
PITCHER,  
HIDAKA-  
KUN.



The theory says we should advance the runner with a bunt here...

Although theories don't apply to Hanks-san,



FIRST, WE  
NEED TO TIE  
THE SCORE.  
AN AMATEUR  
SHOULD JUST  
STAY QUIET!



SHUT UP,  
WHAT'S  
WITH YOUR  
MAD-CLAN  
THIS,  
MAD-CLAN  
THAT??

WHAT  
FID YOU  
SAY,  
BALDY  
IT

COME  
ON



BUT IF HE  
PUSHES IT,  
WHAT IF IT  
TURNS INTO  
A DOUBLE  
PLAY...



AH—  
HE  
HIT—  
!!



HATO-  
GAYA-  
SAN!!













So, what are you going to do now, old man? Drive the infield in, or go for a double play...? Even if Takeuchi isn't as hot as he used to be, right now it's a match against Yashio, isn't it?



IT'S IN YOUR HANDS, YASHIO...!!



It's now one out. Runner on third. A fly to the outfield would put us ahead.



With Kikaku  
pitching, it  
won't be  
possible for  
us to turn  
the score  
around...

It's the 7th  
already... If  
they pull ahead  
here, it doesn't  
matter if it's by  
one run or by  
two runs...



GRANPPA,  
WE'RE  
IN A  
PINCH,  
WAKE UP!



Should we  
make a  
guess and  
see if it  
comes out  
as Fortune  
or  
misfortune?



If we're to win  
against a seeded  
school, we can't  
afford to lose the  
motivation! We have  
to keep showing  
things at home!





78







*If this were  
the Final at the  
Koshien, I'd do  
it, but I can't  
do this now!*



BATTING  
FOURTH,  
RIGHT FIELD,  
OOMIYA-  
KUN.





*So in the end,  
you couldn't  
do it... It's  
hard to be a  
seeded  
school that  
has to think  
about the  
future...*



*This time I'll be  
just a little  
faster than in  
the last one!*

*In my first at  
bat I was too  
early. In my  
second at bat,  
I was too  
late...*



*Because  
my timing  
doesn't  
match slow  
pitchers...*

*I  
understand  
the cause  
of my  
failure...*





There aren't any instructions...  
Which means a fastball inside  
and high, just like before...



It's the same pitch  
again... But  
this time!









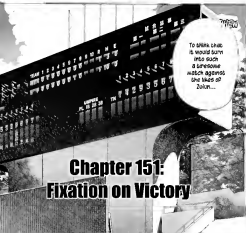




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## Chapter 151: Fixation on Victory







Our Izumi High School entered the tournament as the representative of our prefecture, and we played against the representative from Osaka with the ticket to the Koshien on the line—



Unfortunately, we lost the match by a paper-thin margin, but in getting there, our players had grown strong beyond recognition. If we went to the Koshien, how much stronger would they have grown...



When I think of that, I can't help but feel sad even now.

At that time, if we reached the pinnacle, the school as well could advertise itself as a school that had been to the Koshien, and we would continue to rack up victories and creation...

Quit slumbering and concentrate on the game!





Even I  
can't die  
until I  
make this  
flower  
bloom!

We can't  
give up yet!













We don't need a strike now. We can walk him.









She...  
was so  
close...





IF YOU  
DON'T  
THROW  
HIPE  
ENOUGH,  
THEY CAN  
DO A  
SQUAD  
BUNT—!!



There's no doubt  
they'll work Tetsuo  
next as well. Your  
bunt will come with  
one out, bases  
loaded.



Focu-  
sed!

I can't stop  
quiet here  
anywhere. I  
gotta get  
him  
Focused.



Shut off Zoro  
because  
you're feeling  
bad, you  
won't get  
violent!



Takeshi  
—Come  
here for a  
minute.

Yes.





You've self-destructed because you've been trying to hit with an image from that time in your head.



The image of the home run you hit off Kudo in the Orlan match.

In this game, you've been a captive of a certain image all this time.



With the score tied in the bottom of the 9th, with bases loaded, a single run would decide the match, but you want to win for four?



And you still want to hit a home run?



In their rush  
to throw  
back howl,  
they might  
make a bad  
pass, or they  
can walk in  
a run.

It's the point  
where they can't  
give up a single  
run. Even if  
there's no clear  
hit, it's possible  
that the ball will  
fly past the  
drawn-up infield.



In the end,  
they've set  
themselves up for  
as even  
without  
winning to  
do so.



Whatever shape it takes, in the end, it'll be Takeshi who'll make the deciding run happen! I have to be grateful to the old man for giving us the perfect chance for Takeshi to recover.



YES!

Stretch  
and run  
with your  
own bat!

Discard any  
unnecessary  
imagery! As long as  
you bat your way,  
you can easily hit  
anything that  
pitcher throws  
at you!





Why won't you face them, Pair and square?

What a stupid play...

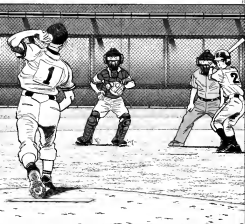


OOI GETS WALKED, AND NOW THERE ARE RUNNERS ON THE CORNERS

MOST LIKELY, THE NEXT BATTER YASHIO-GUN WILL ALSO GET WALKED. THIS IS PROBABLY A PLAY TO LOAD THE BASES











Team: [Team](#)  
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## Chapter 152: A Sudden Turn















Are you  
okay,  
Grandpa?

So it's  
over...



Finally, it was  
a chance for  
Takashi to  
recover...  
And you  
took it  
away!



Sorry for the  
unpleasant  
thing...







In the end, that  
pollution problem  
has become the  
bottleneck.

But that  
factory lot  
hasn't been  
sold yet.



If they're unable to  
sell it, there's no  
doubt that next  
they're going to lay  
their eyes on  
Sengoku...



Maybe the  
board of  
directors is  
managing to  
keep it under  
the surface.

But... If a joint middle and  
high school in a suburb of  
Tokyo that possesses such  
facilities were on sale, it  
would be natural to hear a  
few rumors about school  
corporations considering  
to acquire it...



You think  
so too?



If they keep winning and advancing like this, if they make it to the Koshien, then the asset value will be that much higher, and it wouldn't be surprising that they might be thinking of selling it for more.

It's because the baseball club is doing well.



True... The asset value would go up and, as a result, someone who understands baseball even more than the current owner would end up buying it... It would probably be a fortunate event for the baseball club.

Waseco-san...





When such feelings  
are at their apex,  
it's precisely the  
best to go for the  
win, and that's what  
you told me long  
ago.

After losing  
to someone  
he wanted to  
lose to the  
most, he's  
probably desperate.



I'm going to win  
this match with  
the bumbling  
skills that you  
taught me,  
Kakopaya-san.







HITTING  
IT WITH  
ABANPON IS  
THE BEST  
MEDICINE TO  
REFRESH  
YOUR-  
SELVES!!

カキーン

YOU TOO  
MUST BE  
FEELING  
FRUSTRATED  
OVER TO-  
PAY'S  
MATCH!

KEEP IT  
UP!



I'm to  
practice  
my  
swinging  
with it...?



A  
broom...?



Here. You  
get this,  
Takeshi.





I'm sure  
Hosaka-san as  
well wants to  
bat cleanup...  
And while I'm  
like this...

To all our  
team members  
either... Even  
though there's  
Kawabuchi-san  
out there...



No no,  
Hosaka-san  
is already in  
enough high  
spins.

Yep, he  
slipped  
Morosini.



Oh  
oh oh  
oh...



123



Even though  
I said I'd repay  
the favor to  
everyone...  
That I'd be the  
strength to go  
to the  
Koshien...

I can't make it up  
to your parents  
who have adopted  
me... To the coach  
and the principal,  
as well as the  
president of  
Arakiyama  
Engineering...

Why, what's  
starting  
here?

Oh, he's  
slipping  
Morosini.



And to the  
captain, who  
always cheers  
for me...

To Koshien  
-san, who  
provides  
the data...



When there  
was the  
O-League  
boom, he said  
that we're  
baseball only  
and wouldn't  
stock any  
soccer goods.

Did you  
know? That  
being our  
old man!

AND  
YOU  
STILL  
CALL  
YOUR-  
SELF  
A MAN  
OF THE  
OOMIYA  
FAMILY  
!!?



Because  
of that,  
the store  
almost went  
broke.

Eh?



IF YOU  
FEEL VEXED,  
PRODUCE  
RESULTS IN  
THE NEXT  
MATCH!!

ONCE  
YOU'VE  
DECIDED ON  
SOMETHING,  
DON'T GO  
CRYING  
AFTERWARD  
!!



You still sit  
that huge  
knee in  
the floor  
gym...

But you  
know, even if  
it doesn't  
produce  
results



WITH ALL  
THAT,  
THERE'S  
NO WAY  
YOU CAN'T  
LET ME HAVE  
MORE  
CONFID-  
ENCE!!

I KNOW  
BETTER  
THAN  
ANYONE  
HOW HARD  
YOU  
WORK!

You do 500  
sprints every  
evening, 365  
days a year,  
getting  
these hand  
calfs...



Yes...



There's no sensation of impact or anything left anymore, but a perfect image is left...

But no matter what, I keep remembering it...

The coach said that I self-destructed because I was chasing after the image of that home run...

That's where the problem was...



Sh?

What's the point of remembering if there's no sensation of impact or anything?

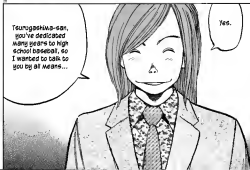




You want  
to ask me  
about the  
prefectural  
#5211?



Thank you for  
coming over when  
you're so busy...  
I'm a Freelance  
writer, Kobo.



Tsurugashiwa-san,  
you've dedicated  
many years to high  
school baseball, so  
I wanted to talk to  
you by all means...

Yes.



Team: [Team](#)  
Hosts: [Hosts](#)  
Project: [Project](#)  
Project: [Project](#)  
Project: [Project](#)





# Chapter 153: My Beloved High School Baseball

What was  
the real  
reason you got  
punched by  
Katogaya  
14 years  
ago?

Could you  
be Frank  
with me?





I see...  
The history of  
high school  
baseball in this  
prefecture...

It's not like  
I can suddenly  
dive into  
that...



Oh?

A  
comment...  
won't be  
enough to  
express  
how I feel.

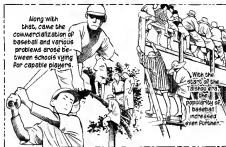
Yes, I'd like to get  
a comment from you,  
Tsunagashima-san,  
about high school  
baseball nowadays.  
After all, you've spent  
many years as  
an umpire...



Student baseball  
history extends back  
all the way to the  
Meiji era. You could  
say that is the  
history of Japanese  
baseball itself.









The  
principle  
is  
correct.

It was a directive  
aimed at enhancing  
both sports  
competition and  
studies, as well as  
controlling the  
exchange of goods  
and money.

Order...  
on  
regulating  
baseball?

Thank  
you for  
waiting.



However, it was  
an intervention of  
national authorities  
into sports,  
and served as  
the basis for  
student baseball  
suppression  
at wartime.



That glorious  
Japanese  
Goodens  
Baseball  
Charter!



In Showa 25,  
the Japanese High School  
Baseball Association,  
which was established  
after the war ended, not  
through the pressure  
from the government, but  
of their own volition,  
enacted...

And  
then...

To nurture the spirit of fairminded courage competition. To not be haughty in one's good fortune, to not yield to one's misfortune, to cultivate the will that is bright and tough. This must be the principle that guides our baseball.



Its presable  
laid out the  
resounding  
ideals of  
student  
baseball.



THE  
ACTIVITIES  
THAT  
WOULD  
BRING TO  
NOUGHT  
THE HARD  
LABOR OF  
THOSE  
PIONEERS  
ARE  
RAMPANT!!

HOWEVER!!  
NOW, HALF  
A CENTURY  
LATER!!

We dreamed  
that finally,  
based on these  
lofty ideals,  
a wholesome  
baseball would  
be played...



No.  
What  
is he  
crying??





MANY PRIVATE  
HIGH SCHOOLS,  
POISONED WITH  
COMMERCIALISM,  
KEEP ENGAGING IN  
FOOLISH ACTIVITIES  
SUCH AS  
ASSEMBLING  
CAPABLE PLAYERS  
FROM THROUGHOUT  
THE WHOLE  
COUNTRY!!



HEALTHY AND  
WHOLESOME  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
CANNOT BE  
NURTURED  
IN THE MIDST OF  
SUCH A TWISTED  
TENDENCY!!



NAMELY,  
BASEBALL  
EXCHANGE  
STUDENTS!! THE  
SCHOLARSHIP  
SYSTEM!!

WH-  
WHOU  
OH!!



So,  
on the  
contrary...



The FSDA as well  
is guilty of not  
taking any  
effective  
measures to  
combat this  
situation!!







During  
the O-tori  
Season  
everyone  
drinks back  
to their  
hometown...



IT'S FOR  
THE  
SPONSOR'S  
SAKE?!



IF the  
representative of  
their place of birth  
does well at the  
Koshien, their hearts  
leap and, wanting to  
know more, they all  
end up buying the  
newspaper the main  
sponsor publishes.



The spring is  
the season of  
parting and  
journeys, it  
makes you  
think strongly  
of your  
hometown.

Then, the  
spring as  
well...?

Some  
thing



ISN'T IT  
THE HSBA  
PUTTING THE  
CART BEFORE  
THE HORSE,  
BEING  
MANIPULATED  
BY THE  
TOURNAMENT  
GROWING  
BIGGER?

THIS  
ISN'T  
SOME-  
THING  
YOU  
SHOULD  
ADMIRE!



Wow! That's  
interesting.  
I didn't know  
it was.

I  
see  
now.



I know it,  
it's too  
small.



...Which  
means?

In order to fix  
that, we must  
now return to  
our engine.

Oh, he's  
going to  
drive that?



This is  
what  
she  
said.

A woman...  
Is that a  
romantic  
story  
now?



In the Fall of  
1986 year, I  
met a certain  
woman...



IF THE STUDENTS' GROWTH IS IMPORTANT, THEN JUST TEACH THEM HOW TO GREET PEOPLE, OR HOW TO BEHAVE PROPERLY!!



Isn't that the fitting teamwear style for high school baseball, that is a part of education in general...?



Stuuuh?



Back then I didn't understand what she was talking about, but when I finally thought about it afterward, it came to me.

Then in the national

tournament. From all the assembled representatives, select the team that plays most appropriately for high school sports as the champion.

# 甲子園球場

First, abolish the tournament system. For the prefectural tournament, select the team that has the appropriate skill and quality as the representative.



do you can work hard and win, but not be the champion, is that really sports?"



That is the shape of the beautiful high school baseball that is my ideal.



The team that chooses after the white ball with a pure heart, that fights their own square, is the team most suitable to be the symbol of the best in Japan.



HIGH  
SCHOOL  
BASEBALL IS  
EDUCATION!!  
IT'S NOT  
JUST ABOUT  
WINNING!!



What?



...So from  
your point of view,  
Izougozawa-san,  
the fact that your  
drama water lost  
today wasn't  
shocking at all?



Well,  
I was worried  
if you might be  
completely  
crestfallen.  
After all, the  
opponent  
was...



Why would I  
be crestfallen  
just because  
it's Saigaku?



That  
Saigaku.







Compared  
to that, Saigaku  
was splendid  
today.



Their ace was  
pitched through  
the ninth inning,  
their defense  
that didn't flinch  
From any  
attempt to  
shake them  
up...





In his  
coach—



But most  
importantly,  
their cleanup  
who was in  
a slump but  
kept believing  
to the end...



DON'T  
YOU  
RESENT  
HIM FOR  
PUNCH-  
ING YOU  
IN THE  
PAST—?



ARE YOU  
ACKNOW-  
LEDGING  
COACH  
HATO-  
GAYA!?

!

GAMMA





He was  
always a delinquent  
after he  
punched you.

You know, that  
Katsugeki was  
a President  
candidate just  
like me in the  
past.



To think that  
you'd be praising  
someone like  
that... Didn't you  
too get trapped in  
a con artist's  
technique?



BE SILENT! I  
DIDN'T COME  
HERE TO  
TALK ABOUT  
SAIGAKU'S  
COACH!!





Excuse me.



What I can say right now is that I would like this lost match to be the opportunity for my sempai, who is too clever for his own good, to open his eyes!



If that's the case, then there's that Rassy next...



In the end, he said what he wanted to say and got away...

One way...





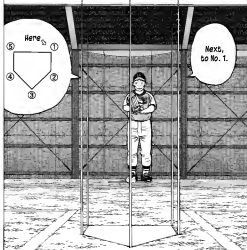
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# Chapter 154: One Man Team











If Kasegane Ootaki's  
Kudou disappeared,  
the best pitcher in  
the tournament  
might be this  
Ootaki...

As usual,  
his slider's  
break is  
amazing.

EXACTLY AS  
PROMISED!  
NICE  
CONTROL,  
OOTAKI!



There's an  
impression  
that even  
though our  
players are  
skilful,  
they're too  
subdued.

He's the  
type we  
haven't seen  
in Eizan High  
in the past  
few years,  
right, Coach  
Shiraiishi?



Ootaki is the  
type that  
grows from  
praise.

If he's told  
that, then  
he'll be  
happy as  
well.

They wouldn't show their fighting spirit... "smart" players, as some say. And guys like that were eliminated by him, into bringing their emotions out in the open.

Next, wrap around to, 5 and hit to, 4.

Indeed. I wonder if that was the reason we couldn't break through another wall...



As well as the fact that we became the first seed, and that we got this far this summer...

It's thanks to Otsuki that the team has become so energized.



YEAH, NICE BALL!!



It's the ace, the cleanup, and the captain on top of that...





He's  
truly the  
team's  
pillar.



And in the Spring  
prefectural  
tournament, he  
had kept  
everyone shut  
out until we lost  
to Virgin Mary in  
the semifinal.

Especially if  
you consider  
that he hasn't  
given away  
a single run  
in 24 innings  
so far.





Geez, they don't have a superstar like me, do they?

It doesn't. Plain old, balded is the thing good.



IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT THE OPPONENT IS A SLEEPER SCHOOL!

OH, THERE IT IS, THE DECLARATION OF INTENT TO SMIT THEM OUT!



I'm under-  
nosed—

Oh man, I used something so cliché—

Please don't catch a cold

Excuse-  
ion, you're so funny



It looks like someone's talking about me



The only star who can rival me is Yinger Mary's class...



Even if you're not a prince...



If Akashi is the prince of comedy, I'm the prince of fighting spirit.











It seems like maybe that Poppe is used off something serious





EnF

It's clear that Ekan doesn't have much batting strength. In this tournament, their team batting average is .221.

Even so, I don't think they can hit off him.

They've scored a total of 12 runs in three games, but 6, half of them, were from squeeze plays.

That's Ekan's winning pattern.

And then they plan to get away with their advantage by leaving it all to Ootaki...

Only the cleanup, Ootaki's batting average exceeds .300.

So they're a typical one-man band.

So Ootaki is at the heart of both picking and batting.

If Ootaki hits a long one, they advance him to third, and then score a run with a squeeze.



You're  
saying?



The team  
as a whole  
functions  
in order to  
enable  
Ootaki.



It's true that  
Elden is the  
Ootaki one  
man team...

However, what  
looks is that  
he's not getting  
cocky as the  
king of the  
mountain.



All for one...



Everyone  
for the  
sake of  
one  
person.



Rather  
than a one  
man team,  
they're an  
all for one  
team.



I WANT  
TO KNOW.  
PLEASE  
TELL US!!



So what kind  
of a strategy  
do we use  
against a  
bitch like  
that...?



It's about  
how we hit  
off Ootaki  
and how we  
prevent him  
from hitting.

It's  
simple.











What's that  
now? Get I  
kidnapping?

Waaaa-  
aaa...?





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# Chapter 155: Tell Me, Warabi-san!





Last time  
we met was in  
winter, wasn't it?  
Around  
February?

Yeah,  
it's been  
a while.



Did your  
research  
go well?



Yes.

This time,  
you said you  
were researching  
charismatic  
salesmen, and  
came to ask me  
about  
Kotopaga-san,  
right?



I'd like to  
read it...

Okay, did  
you write  
a book or  
something?



Yes,  
thanks  
to you.







Actually, I've  
researched  
some stuff  
as well.



Your  
personality  
makes you  
easy to  
figure out.



It seems that  
you write  
for some  
magazines  
here and  
there?

In reality,  
you're a  
writer about  
high school  
baseball,  
aren't you?



I've done  
my  
research.  
About  
baseballs  
as well.



That  
incident?



Because you  
wanted to  
find out the  
truth of  
that  
incident,  
right?



In the end,  
you were  
interested in  
Coach  
baseballs...



Is that  
really  
true?



Isn't it  
about how he  
punched an  
engine in the  
past?



It was his  
peculiar views  
on baseball  
and glass  
multiglass.

Well,  
what-  
ever.



That's not  
why I became  
interested in  
killing you-  
sami



It isn't  
possible to  
attack  
from that  
direction.



So... After that  
incident, he didn't  
go back to school  
and ran all the way  
to Osaka, right?



Isaac?  
What is he  
talking  
about?





That  
Itabagaga-san's  
sales technique  
was polished in  
Osaka!

Didn't I  
tell you  
that time?



I smell  
some-  
thing  
there.



You went  
there, didn't  
you? To  
Osaka. And  
didn't you  
find anything  
there?



Don't you  
smell  
something?  
I wonder  
what exactly  
happened in  
Osaka?



You and,  
didn't  
you?



Well,  
there...



I'll tell you  
once more.  
Forget  
everything  
you've  
learned  
here!



Q- But...  
I have a duty of  
confidentiality  
... Recklessly  
compromising a  
source would  
be...



Tell me. Didn't I  
give you the hint  
about Osaka?  
Is it fair to  
monopolize all  
information?



カ  
ッ  
ッ



Oh, really.  
So you  
can't say  
it.



You know, in the past  
I've also engaged in  
some dangerous work  
with kidnapping.  
I still have some  
acquaintances in  
the underworld.



If guys like  
this come  
out, I won't  
be able to  
hold them  
back.



Under-  
world...  
business?



In the worst case, Warabi-chan, you might get buried.



IF I SAY THE USUAL, IT MEANS THE USUAL!



Get the drift?



Yep, the usual place!



What he's after must be... money!

He's planning to extort some or he'll expose Katogaya-san's past? That must be it...



...That is  
an odd  
BOB  
there's  
no one  
backing  
him.



And all your  
hard work  
will come  
to naught!

But if BOB  
is true...  
Then it'll be  
the ruin of  
Saigaku and  
Katsuyu  
-sama!



Ah, hello,  
it's been  
a while!







It's some information that I risked my life to get...



Actually, without me, I don't think you can get any big chunk of cash.



So you want a cut?



The information I have will be worth more and more as Saigaku continues to win and advance.



Get I do.



But Kuba-san, you probably don't know the buyer or the taking for it, do you?









**BOLDLY  
HIT WASTE  
FAST-  
BALLS!!**









You must hit  
the first  
pitch in your  
first at bat  
no matter  
what!



I'm sure Ewan has figured  
out from Takeshi's date that  
he's the type that would  
stand back and watch. In  
that case, the first pitch  
would certainly be a fastball  
for a strike. I'll have him hit  
it so he watches the ball like  
he does normally and doesn't  
flounder again!



If you let it go,  
I'll substitute  
Kondoukawa for  
you right then!



YES!



A lefty batter is key to  
breaking a slider pitcher.  
We only have three of  
those! Kawaguchi, Iwama  
and Tanaka! If you don't  
hit him or somehow find a  
left-handed pitcher, we'll be  
in trouble! Until then, make  
sure you don't think about  
anything unnecessary.

It says Kabuo Ikuta is named "Tago-umori" and Kabuo Ich is a character from a Japanese that looks like a Higgs.





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Finally,  
the fifth  
round  
match...

## Today High School Baseball Round 5

10:00 AM

1st base side: Eikan High School

3rd base side: Saitama Academy

03:00 PM

1st base side: Musashino Phys Ed Uni Affiliate

3rd base side: Douman High School

お  
れ  
だ  
の  
し  
や  
う

お  
れ  
だ  
の  
し  
や  
う

## Chapter 156:

## Fifth Round Match, Before the Storm...

チケット売り場

Ticket Office







The third year.  
From last year,  
couldn't play  
baseball by this  
time anymore.  
But we can.



Moreover,  
we're  
already in  
the best  
16!!

*If we win today,  
we'll be in  
the top 8. We  
can't let this  
summer end yet!*



*...But, as  
expected,  
getting this far  
has caused  
everyone to  
accumulate  
fatigue...*



If something  
happens to  
you, Tashio,  
I'll have to go  
out as your  
replacement,  
and that'll be  
a problem.

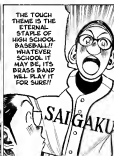
It's okay.  
I can do  
this much  
at least.

Sorry,  
Fukaya.













In order to break him, we need our lefty batters especially to work hard!!

The opponent today is a slider pitcher.



Awk?



Y-YES!

Therefore, the top batter will be Iruma!



It's my time to bat at the top of the order.











Seventh  
batter,  
Sawamura.



YES!

Seishu  
batter,  
Sawamura.



Right,  
Aoki...



Right  
batter,  
Yoshio.



Right  
batter,  
Iwa-  
buchi.



Honestly,  
I'm relieved.  
It's far easier  
than batting  
third.



You've  
gone  
down  
in the  
order.







OOTAKI  
-KUUUUU  
AL



There aren't any  
cool guys  
here...



Oh, there  
he is!



Please  
leave it to  
me, today  
will be  
another  
easy win!



I've always  
thought your  
tastes were  
strange...

"There he  
is"? Is he  
your type,  
daddy?"

No,  
that's  
not it.



Seriously,  
that's not  
it, I'm  
telling you.  
And  
MURDERER  
LEAVE IT!











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←こいつが栄冠のカバお君!!



投げて打つてのカバ大将が  
彩学の前に立ち塞がる!!

【週刊ビッグコミックスピリッツ】  
にて大好評連載中!!  
私立彩学学院高校野球部の逆襲

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Storyboard: [Shoichi Hirose](#)  
Screenplay: [Shoichi Hirose](#)  
Script: [Shoichi Hirose](#)  
Music: [Shoichi Hirose](#)

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Storyboard: [Shoichi Hirose](#)

